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INFORMATION REPORT

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SUBJECT The VIII Department of the Ministry
of National Defense (MNO)

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. The VIII Department of the Ministry of National Defense (MNO)
controls and supervises all military production and factories
which are vital to the national defense in Czechoslovakia.
As part of its function the MNO:

- a. Maintains the Military Research Institute which develops
and tests new weapons and equipment. Gen fnu Treibal,
52-year old artillery officer, is the CG.
- b. Maintains the Ordnance Officers Training School at
Pilsen (N50/4 04) and the Chemical Warfare School at
Olomouc (Olmutz - P50/N 85).
- c. Introduces new weapons and equipment, in cooperation
with the 1st Division of the General Staff.
- d. Creates ordnance control agencies.
- e. Cooperates with the District Administrations of War
Industry attached to Military District Commands.
- f. Keeps statistics of defense installations, leading
technicians, plant productive capacities, and machinery
records.
- g. Grants permission to foreigners to work in Czechoslovak
sensitive industries.

2. Some of the leading personnel in the VIII Department are:

a. Col fnu Kalla

The Chief, 44 years old, has grey
hair, an ardent Communist, and was
in the Czechoslovak Corps in the
USSR during the war. He was
formerly attached to the II
Department of the MNO.

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b. Lt Col fnu Brandeis

Deputy Chief, a 54-year old Communist. [] believes that he will soon be retired.

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c. Lt Col Vaclav Prymek

A former member of the Czech Army abroad, first in Britain, then in the USSR. He came out of retirement to assume this job at the request of Gen Bedrich Reicin.

d. Maj fnu Skopera

Attached to the Planning Section. He is 37 years old.

e. Staff Capt fnu Vanek

Attached to the Small Arms Section.

f. Staff Capt fnu Toms

Attached to the Chemistry and Textiles Section. He is 35 years old, tall, blond.

g. Staff Capt fnu Kratochvil

Attached to the General Section. He is 37 years old.

h. Maj fnu Krepinsky

Attached to the Legal Section. He professes to be a non-Communist.

3. Organization of the VIII Department:

a. 1st Group - General

Personnel
Records
Patents
Research
War Material Export Permits

b. 2nd Group - Armaments

Small Arms
Heavy Arms
Infantry Ammunition
Artillery Ammunition
Air Force Ammunition

c. 3rd Group - Transport

Personnel Transport
Trucks

d. 4th Group - Chemistry and Textiles

e. 5th Group - Raw Materials

Semi-finished Products
Mines
Iron Works

f. 6th Group - Attached OBZ personnel:

(1) Lt Col fnu Zadina, 45 years old, was a political prisoner during the German occupation. He is a faithful servant of the present regime.

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(2) Maj fnu Veverka, [] attached to the Stalin Works

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After

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February 1948 he became director of the Export Department of the CZ (Ceskoslovenska Zbrojovka) Works in Prague (051/L 78). He is an ardent Communist and has an English wife who joined the Czechoslovak Communist Party.

4. The Department maintains five Ordnance Control Agencies (Zbrojne Technicky Urad or ZTU) located at the following places:

- a. ZTU 1 at Pilsen controls Skoda products.
- b. ZTU 2 at Vlasim (Wlaschim - 050/M 14) controls infantry ammunition.
- c. ZTU 3 at Brno (P50/N 40) controls the CZ Works.
- d. ZTU 4 at Bratislava (P49/X 99) controls explosives works.
- e. ZTU 5 at Povazska Bystrica (Q50/O 71) controls infantry and artillery ammunition.

5. Ordnance Control Officers are stationed in every war industry plant in Czechoslovakia. Some of the plants at which control officers are posted are:

- a. CKD at Prague which produces searchlights and tracked vehicles.
- b. Sommet plant at Trnovany (Trnovan - N51/F 53) which produces gunsights and optical instruments.
- c. Optikotechna at Prerov (Prerau - P50/O 03) which produces gunsights, rangefinders, and periscopes.
- d. Stalin works at Horni Litvinov (Oberleutensdorf - N51/F 13) which makes synthetic gasoline. Lt Col fnu Gregor is the control officer.
- e. CZ plant at Strakonice (N50/Q 49) which produces armaments.
- f. CZ plant at Vsetin (Wsetin - P50/O 43) which makes explosives.
- g. The Czechoslovakian Chemical Works at Usti nad Labem (Aussig an der Elbe - N51/F 44) which refines mineral oils.

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